

Lynchburg Va. ^{The} Feb^y 21. 1864

Dear wife

I take my pen to inform you that
I am still on the land of the living and
hope these few lines may find you all
enjoying the blessing of health one of
the greatest blessings God gives —

I have had a pretty hard time of it
since my sojourn here in the city I was
wounded on the 17 of June and thought they
could save it without taking it of
me till this month when it became ^{very} necessary
to save life I had it amputated the 11
of this month which great relief it
hasnt pained one fourth what it
did before it was amputated it is doing
very well until the last 3 or 4 days but
looks like its healing up slowly
I have had the disease for about a week
but am getting better for the last few
days it has got me weakened down
very much my appetite is bad and
dont eat much bread & drink butter
milk and